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P265  
1897/1898

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WILLIAM B. DANA COMPANY  
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OFFICE

# ANNUAL MESSAGE

5 1916

—OF—

# ANDREW McLEAN

Mayor of the City of Passaic.

1898.

PASSAIC, N. J.,  
THE PASSAIC PRESS,  
26 BLOOMFIELD AVE.

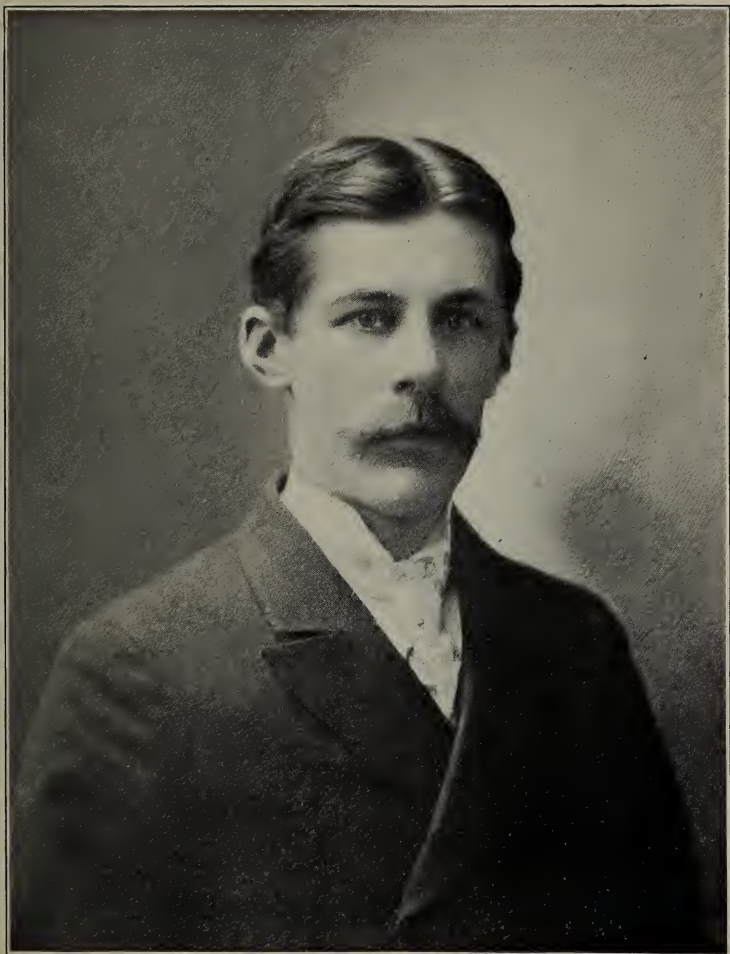


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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS





ANDREW McLEAN.  
SIXTH MAYOR.

LIBRARY  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY

JUL 5 1978

# ANNUAL MESSAGE

—OF—

# ANDREW McLEAN

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PASSAIC.

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1898.

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THE PASSAIC PRESS,  
PASSAIC, N. J.





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P 265  
1997/18

## CITY OFFICERS.

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**Mayor,**  
ANDREW McLEAN.

---

**President of City Council,**  
JNO. J. SLATER.

---

**Collector of Taxes,**  
ALBERT T. ZABRISKIE.

---

**City Clerk,**  
RICHARD B. TINDALL.

---

**City Treasurer,**  
WILLIAM MALCOLM.

---

**Chosen Freeholders,**  
1st Ward, JOHN J. WELSH,  
2d “ EDWARD N. KEVITT,  
3d “ JACOB J. VAN NOORDT,  
4th “ CHRISTIAN HUBER.

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**Superintendent of Streets,**  
THOMAS GIBLIN.

---

**City Surveyor,**  
COLIN R. WISE.

---

**City Counsel,**  
WALTER KIP.

**City Physician.**  
DR. A. WARD VAN RIPER.

---

**Police Justice,**  
JOHN H. BOWKER.

---

**Overseer of the Poor,**  
DANIEL FOGARTY.

---

**Registrar of Vital Statistics,**  
FRED A. PARKER.

---

**Superintendent of Fire Alarm,**  
CHARLES R. NEWMAN.

---

**Captain of Police,**  
WM. HENDRY.

---

**Sergeant of Police,**  
MATTHEW KELLY.

---

**Superintendent of Sewers,**  
COLIN R. WISE.

---

**District Court,**  
Judge, WILLIAM W. WATSON,  
Clerk, SILAS A. CLARKE,  
Sergeant-at-Arms, SAMUEL WEINBERGER.

---

**Janitor,**  
ELI KNOWLDEN.

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

GILES S. ORCUTT, At Large.

THOMAS McMAHON, 1st Ward,

JAMES T. BOYLE, 3d Ward,

WM. H. SPEER, 2nd Ward.

AARON WITTE, 4th Ward.

THOMAS McMAHON, Clerk.

---

## BOARD OF HEALTH.

DR. A. WARD VAN RIPER, President,

ALBERT H. SMITH, Secretary.

PATRICK DELANEY, 1st Ward.

C. E. DENHOLM, 2d Ward

ALBERT H. SMITH, 3d Ward.

FRED. R. LOW, 4th Ward.

DR. A. WARD VAN RIPER, At Large.

JOHN RADCLIFFE, At Large

DR. G. J. VAN SCHOTT, Health Inspector.

WM. DAVIDSON, Inspector of Plumbing.

CHARLES E. DENHOLM, Treasurer.

DR. J. P. LOWE, Vet. Inspector.

MARTIN J. FLYNN, Sanitary Officer.

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## BOARD OF EDUCATION.

LOUIS B. CARR, President.

ANDREW FOULDS, Secretary.

### First Ward.

ERNEST REMIG,

WILLIAM R. RYAN,

C. P. STRAYER,

### Third Ward.

WILLIAM W. PRATT.

LOUIS B. CARR,

WILLIAM T. MAGEE.

H. H. HUTTON, PH. D., City Superintendent.

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### Second Ward.

JOHN T. VAN RIPER,

ANDREW FOULDS,

DEWITT C. COWDREY.

### Fourth Ward.

GEORGE B. WILSON,

SYLVESTER J. POST,

JOHN DEKEYSER.

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## CITY BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

ALBERT O. MILLER, JR.,

REV. W. I. SWEET,

H. H. HUTTON, PH. D.

## CITY COUNCIL.

JOHN J. SLATER, At Large, President.

### First Ward.

JOHN J. WELSH,  
OWEN J. PERCELL,  
JOHN J. HOGAN,

### Second Ward.

ROBT. M. OFFORD.  
HAMILTON K. BEATTY,  
WATSON A. BOGART.

### Third Ward.

CORNELIUS KEVITT,  
JOHN A. PARKER,  
ED. W. GARDNER,

### Fourth Ward.

WM. H. HORNBECK,  
JOHN HAMILTON.  
AARON KIEVIT.

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## TRUSTEES FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

JOHN A. WILLETT,  
IRVING ANGELL,

R. D. BENSON,  
W. C. KIMBALL,

DR. GEORGE L. RUNDLE.



## STANDING COMMITTEES.

1897=8.

FINANCE—Hamilton K. Beatty, Edward W. Gardner, William H. Hornbeck.

AUDIT—William H. Hornbeck, Edward W. Gardner, Robt. M. Offord.

ORDINANCES—Owen J. Purcell, John Hamilton, Robert M. Offord.

STREETS AND ASSESSMENT—John A. Parker, John J. Welsh, William H. Hornbeck.

SEWERS—Cornelius Kevitt, Watson A. Bogart, John Hamilton.

POOR—John Hamilton, Watson A. Bogart, Owen J. Purcell.

POLICE—John J. Welsh, Hamilton K. Beatty, Aaron Kievit.

PRINTING—Watson A. Bogart, John J. Hogan, Cornelius Kevitt.

SALARIES AND OFFICERS—John Hamilton, Owen J. Purcell, John A. Parker.

RAILROADS—Aaron Kievit, John A. Parker, Hamilton K. Beatty.

CITY MAPS—Robert M. Offord, Cornelius Kevitt, Aaron Kievit.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND WATER SUPPLY—John J. Hogan, Hamilton K. Beatty, John J. Welsh.

STREET LAMPS—Edward W. Gardner, John Hamilton, Robert M. Offord.

JUDICIARY—William H. Hornbeck, Cornelius Kevitt, Watson A. Bogart.

PUBLIC LIBRARY—Owen J. Purcell, John A. Parker, Aaron Kievit.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PARKS—John J. Slater, John A. Parker, Aaron Kievit.

LICENSES—John J. Hogan, Cornelius Kevitt, John Hamilton.

PUBLIC EDUCATION—Robert M. Offord, Aaron Kievit, Edward W. Gardner.



# MAYOR'S MESSAGE.

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*To the Honorable City Council of Passaic.*

GENTLEMEN:—

At this time it affords me much pleasure to communicate to you by message as required by the spirit of the City Charter, and the custom which in itself has become time honored. While another civic year of our city has passed, and the advent of the new year finds our beautiful city in a healthy and very prosperous condition it is hardly necessary to faithfully portray in this message all that might be said of our continuous growth and prosperity, it being evident at home and abroad, that Passaic is without a peer in material and industrial growth, and the excellent and permanent character of its improvements are commendable to all, and I trust that it will ever be your purpose to maintain the high standard which we now enjoy, and add to its already proud distinction, as one of the most desirable cities in all the State, so that others appreciating its worth as a place for a home will desire to locate among us.

Having passed the great political struggle which shook to the very foundation, the industrial and financial institutions of this country, confidence, the greatest of all business factors, has been restored, and with it Passaic has reaped the benefit, its bonds having sold at the highest price ever obtained in its history, the last sale being at the rate of three and three quarters per cent.  $3\frac{3}{4}$  per annum, and while their legality of issue is in question by the buyers, I trust that by proper legislation the matter will soon be settled.

The improvements carried out during the past year have been in the line of what was deemed necessary to our future welfare, the macadamizing of some of the principal streets,

laying new sewers and the building of the new municipal building, and while the latter has not progressed to my entire satisfaction I trust that it will be completed at an early date. In the matter of improvements, Passaic street should merit your attention. I believe it would be much better and give entire satisfaction if the same was paved with stone. The superintendent of streets has on several occasions urged the necessity of its being done, as the cost of maintaining the present macadam, would go towards the new pavement and more than pay the interest on the investment.

The improvements now being carried out by the Erie railroad along their line through the city are very commendable and will add much to the present appearance of our main thoroughfare. The adoption of the new dog license has proved a source of revenue for the city, while in previous years the old method had not given universal satisfaction and was carried out at a loss of several hundred dollars a year.

I would suggest to your honorable body the advisability of properly decorating the interior of the city hall as its bare cold walls are hardly in keeping with its exterior and surroundings.

The reports of the several departments of the city government are submitted herewith, as part of this message, the details of which are worthy of your time and attention. They not only cover what has been done during the past year, but may serve as a guide for the future.

The Committee on Finance have had the books of the Collector and Treasurer examined by an expert accountant, who has recommended that a statement be made up, which would serve as a basis for future examinations. Herewith I present for your consideration, the statement showing the present financial condition of the city, which will more than favorably compare with other cities of our size and population.



## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

## ASSETS.

Uncollected taxes, 1897.....	\$64,048 31	
Uncollected taxes, prior.....	61,614 13	
Uncollected taxes, etc., under Martin Act.....	4,275 90	
Uncollected street assessments.....	52,791 66	
Anticipated assessment on property for which certificates of improvement have been is- sued.....	116,265 92	
State School Fund, 1897.....	25,510 00	
	<hr/>	\$324,505 92
School buildings and grounds, valuation 1882....	53,500 00	
Third Ward school, cost with improvements to date.....	7,700 00	
Fourth ward school, including furniture.....	11,700 00	
New High School.....	40,000 00	
New 2nd Ward School.....	21,000 00	
New 4th Ward School, cost to date.....	45,913 12	
	<hr/>	\$179,813 12
New City Hall Park, cost of improvements to date, including amount subscribed by citi- zens, to be expended in preserving and im- proving Paulison Castle.....	77,000 00	
Passaic Bridge Park, cost.....	14,000 00	
	<hr/>	91,000 00
New Fire Department and Police Building.....	18,500 00	
Hamilton Hose House.....	5,000 00	
Fire Apparatus.....	22,000 00	
Fire Department Buildings.....	9,000 00	
Gamewell Fire Alarm.....	6,000 00	
Bell tower and bell.....	986 00	
Linden Hose House site.....	1,000 00	
City Poor-house and Farm.....	10,700 00	
Furniture, Safes, etc.....	2,600 00	
	<hr/>	75,786 00
Cash in Sinking Fund.....	26,133 02	
Bonds in Sinking Fund.....	25,875 00	
Interest on Bonds, Sinking Fund.....	1,250 00	
Cash on deposit in banks.....	37,338 74	
Cash loan, Erie street opening.....	6,000 00	
Cash loan, Maple street opening.....	7,400 00	
	<hr/>	103,996 76
Total....		\$775,101 80

## LIABILITIES.

5 per cent. City bonds, 1895-1914.....	\$17,000 00	
5 per cent. City bonds, June 1, 1896-1919.....	22,000 00	
5 per cent. City bonds, January 2, 1902.....	23,500 00	
5 per cent. City bonds, November, 1900-1924.....	25,000 00	
5 per cent. City bonds, 1905-1915.....	33,000 00	
4½ per cent. City bonds, 1906.....	7,500 00	
5 per cent. City bonds, 1898-1911.....	35,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$163,000 00

5 per cent. School house bonds, 1896-1906.....	12,000 00	
5 per cent. School house bonds, 1896-1898.....	1,000 00	
5 per cent. School house bonds, 1912.....	9,000 00	
5 per cent. School house bonds, 1895-1915.....	18,000 00	
4½ per cent. School house bonds, 1899-1914.....	46,000 00	
5 per cent. City bonds, 1918.....	11,500 00	
5 per cent. Public Improvement bonds, 1898-1912.....	75,000 00	
	<hr/>	172,500 00
Bonds issued on account of Hope ave. opening...	935 00	
Bonds issued on account of Westervelt Place opening.....	384 50	
Bonds issued on account of Ayerigg ave. opening.....	320 04	
Bonds issued on account of Central ave opening.....	4,089 76	
Bonds issued on account of Garden st. opening..	6,000 00	
Bonds issued on account of Paulison ave. widening.....	3,040 00	
Improvement certificates outstanding.....	141,173 74	+
Amount of appropriations unexpended.....	97,903 51	
Sewer bonds.....	75,000 00	
Tax Arrearage bonds.....	19,500 00	
	<hr/>	348,346 55
Total Liabilities.....		\$683,846 55
Excess in Assets.....		91,255 25

#### POLICE.

The report of the Police Department shows a very orderly condition of the city, and I believe the police are efficient and endeavor to perform their duty in a faithful manner, and while Captain Hendry deems it necessary to have more policemen, I have not considered it wise to recommend an increase until we are further along in the year, and know that the appropriations for the next year will permit it.

#### LIBRARY.

The report of the President of the Trustees of the Free Public Library shows that this branch of our city institution is sufficiently meritorious to command public interest and to receive such aid as can properly be given by the city and its generous citizens. The Dundee branch of the Library was a step in the right direction in permitting those who could least afford it, the opportunity of keeping in touch with current literature.

#### TAXES.

This year the tax rate was raised to three per cent. as against 2.92 last year and 2.98 the year previous this in part

was due to an increase in county tax ; also the Commissioners of Appeal granted a reduction in taxes of \$28,450.00 as against \$10,225.00, for the previous year. However, I anticipate for the next year a normal tax rate.

#### EDUCATION.

The President of the Board of Education has submitted a full report of the work accomplished, and has several recommendations relating to the betterment of the schools and scholars, and while he has taken exception to your cutting down the amount of appropriations required by them, it must be born in mind that this condition affects alike every branch of the city government. I would personally be willing to grant all moneys which may be required by them, but the conditions are such that other interests of the city would suffer, or on the other hand it would be necessary to raise the tax rate to such an extent that citizens would be justified in protesting against it. I am of the opinion that our schools have kept pace with the city's growth and compare favorably with other cities in the matter of accommodation in proportion to the population. I particularly request your attention to the report of the Board of Education that you may have a full knowledge of their requirements and the administration of their department.

The report of City Engineer Wise is replete with interesting data, covering all the improvements under his supervision during the past year, and as a matter of reference will be found valuable.

The Fire Department has rendered efficient service during the year, and while there have been no disastrous fires it is manifest that the department should be made as effective as possible by such improvements as may be found necessary. Chief Engineer Foxhall has embodied in his report a complete statement of the several fire companies.

The loss to your honorable body in the death of Councilman Robert J. Wall, member from the First Ward, is much to be regretted. In a special election held to fill the vacancy Mr. Purcell was duly elected.

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I have not deemed it advisable at the present time to recommend to you any extended improvements, as I prefer to wait and let the future make its demands for what may be deemed expedient and necessary. Since my previous message to you I have had many courtesies extended to me by your honorable body, and the relations between yourself and the Executive have been of the most friendly character.

ANDREW McLEAN,

Mayor.

Passaic, Feb. 1st, 1898.



## REPORT OF COLLECTOR OF TAXES.

## UNCOLLECTED TAXES, JANUARY 1, 1898.

YEAR.	REAL ESTATE.	PERSONAL.	POLL.	DOG.	TOTAL.
PRIOR TO 1897	\$21,991.43	\$15,682.70	\$22,137.00	\$1,803.00	\$61,614.13
1897	55,241.26	5,900.05	2,907.00	.00	64,048.31
	\$77,232.69	\$21,582.75	\$25,044.00	\$1,803.00	\$125,662.44

Taxes and Assessments adjusted under the Martin Act and sold to the City of Passaic.

## UNREDEEMED, JANUARY 1, 1898.

Martin Act Sale No. 1.	March 31, 1891.	\$ 170.54
“ “ “ “ 2.	Feb'y 3, 1892.	2,947.05
“ “ “ “ 3.	July 6, 1892.	1,158.31
	Total	\$4,275.90

## UNPAID ASSESSMENTS, JANUARY 1, 1898.

<i>Assessment.</i>	<i>Confirmed.</i>	<i>Amt.</i>
A street in the Second ward (Erie St.) opening.....	October 7, 1889.....	\$ 27 37
Aycrigg avenue, grade, curb, gutter, flag and crosswalk.....	February 16, 1891.....	289 87
Ascension street, grade, curb, gutter and flag.....	April 25, 1893.....	379 11
Bloomfield avenue, shade tree.....	April 4, 1887.....	3 78
Burgess Place, sidewalk.....	Nov. 5, 1892.....	144 30
Bond street, grade and flag.....	April 24, 1894.....	70 85
Boulevard, grade, curb, gutter and flag.....	Feb. 28, 1896.....	358 54
Central avenue, straightening and altering.....	April 24, 1894.....	65 22
Central avenue, macadam.....	May 18, 1897.....	1,059 76
Carlton Place, curb, grade and flag.....	January 5, 1897.....	150 19
Dayton avenue, grade, curb, gutter, flag &c.....	March 25, 1893.....	121 05
East main avenue, paving and guttering.....	December 5, 1887.....	504 44
Essex street, grade, curb and gutter.....	September 3, 1890.....	127 76
Elm street, grading &c.....	January 22, 1894.....	536 95
Erie street, opening.....	April 28, 1897.....	2,667 09
First street, curb, gutter, &c.....	February 23, 1887.....	17 58
First street, macadam.....	October 12, 1897.....	494 03
Fourth street, grade, curb, gutter, and flag.....	October 6, 1890.....	135 64
Fifth street, grade, &c.....	April 26, 1892.....	206 67
Franklin avenue, opening.....	April 28, 1897.....	1,063 88
Franklin avenue, change of grade.....	September 28, 1897.....	11 22
Grove street, macadam.....	February 28, 1896.....	107 86
Gregory avenue, macadam.....	May 18, 1897.....	2,787 46
Garden street, opening.....	May 18, 1897.....	1,715 64
Hamilton avenue, grade, curb, gutter and flag.....	October 3, 1887.....	30 04



Hamilton avenue, grading .....	February 2, 1891 .....	285 30
Hamilton avenue, grade, curb, gutter, flag &c.....	February 16, 1891 .....	1,349 20
Hope avenue, improving .....	September 25, 1894.....	81 20
Hope avenue, opening.....	January 26, 1897.....	129 94
Hope avenue, opening.....	October 5, 1897 .....	1,968 91
Harrison street, curb, gutter and flag	February 28, 1896 .....	176 07
Howard street, grade, curb, gutter and flag.....	October 9, 1896.....	642 31
High street, grade, curb, etc.....	January 26, 1897.....	254 37
Irving place, macadam.....	April 23, 1895.....	50 50
Jefferson street, shade trees.....	September 9, 1887 .....	15 85
Jefferson street, grade, curb, gutter, etc.....	July 15, 1889.....	15 00
Jefferson street, flag.....	April 26, 1892.....	292 34
Lafayette avenue, grade, flag, etc....	April 23, 1895.....	144 13
Linden street, curb, gutter and sidewalk .....	October 4, 1886 .....	29 30
Lexington avenue, grading.....	October 20, 1890.....	17 69
Madison street, grade, curb, gutter and flag .....	April 24, 1894 .....	410 11
Meade avenue, opening .....	January 5, 1897.....	1,536 59
Maple street, opening .....	January 26, 1897.....	735 59
Paulison avenue, opening .....	August 15, 1887.....	20 92
Paulison avenue, curb, gutter and flag.....	May 7, 1888.....	606 60
Paulison avenue, widening .....	May 21, 1897.....	1,496 95
Pennington avenue, extending and opening.....	October 17, 1887.....	167 46
Pennington avenue, grading, etc....	November 28, 1887.....	49 34
Pennington avenue, macadam .....	September 22, 1896....	2,463 93
Park avenue, grade, curb, gutter and flag.....	April 26, 1892.....	397 48
Park avenue, curb, gutter and flag .....	January 5, 1897.....	269 78
Prospect street, macadam.....	September 22, 1896.....	372 95
Passaic street, grade, curb, gutter and flag .....	May 18, 1897 .....	443 96
Randolph street, grade, curb, gutter, flag, etc.....	May 18, 1897 .....	406 56
State street, opening.....	October 4, 1886.....	4 20
State street, grade, curb and flag....	May 21, 1888.....	47 58
Second street, curb, gutter and sidewalk .....	April 2, 1888 .....	219 95
Sherman street, grading.....	May 3, 1892.....	2,234 89
Summer street, opening .....	February 28, 1896.....	2 00
Third street, flag .....	August 15, 1887.....	19 00
Third street, grading.....	April 25, 1893.....	365 35
Van Houten avenue, opening.....	November 5, 1892.....	15 51
Van Houten avenue, improving .....	September 25, 1894....	36 37
Van Houten avenue, improving .....	April 23, 1895.....	7 00
Vroom and Dayton avenues, macadam .....	May 18, 1897.....	250 00
Westervelt place, opening.....	September 22, 1896 ....	417 38
Westervelt place, grade, curb, gutter and flag .....	October 19, 1897.....	225 00
Total.....		\$31,750 86

## UNPAID SEWER ASSESSMENTS, JANUARY 1, 1898.

<i>Assessment.</i>	<i>Confirmed.</i>	<i>Amt.</i>
Sewer No. 1, Passaic street, Ann street, State and McLean streets...	January 5, 1891 .....	61 06
Sewer No. 2, Park place.....	January 19, 1891.....	100 00
Sewer No. 6, Passaic street .....	June 1, 1891.....	249 46
Sewer No. 7, east side of Main avenue	April 26, 1892 .....	85 57
Sewer No. 9, Tail race outlet.....	April 26, 1892.....	1,144 61
Sewer No. 18, Aspen street .....	April 25, 1893.....	125 83
Sewer No. 19, Third street .....	May 8, 1893 .....	397 88
Sewer No. 21, Highland avenue.....	October 3, 1893.....	105 00
Sewer No. 22, Mattimore street .....	April 25, 1893.....	41 94
Sewer, Aspen place and Columbia avenue .....	January 26, 1897 .....	201 44
Sewer, Boulevard.....	September 22, 1896 .....	42 14
Sewer, Central avenue.....	October 25, 1894.....	133 14
Sewer, Elm street.....	October 25, 1894.....	124 52
Sewer, Erie street .....	October 9, 1896.....	167 87
Sewer, Hobart street.....	October 9, 1896.....	22 41
Sewer, Lafayette avenue .....	September 28, 1897 .....	548 96
Sewer, Lexington avenue.....	February 28, 1896 .....	86 74
Sewer, Linden street.....	January 5, 1897 .....	109 43
Sewer, Passaic avenue.....	February 28, 1896 .....	144 92
Sewer, Reid avenue .....	May 18, 1897.....	150 32
Total .....		\$ 4,043 24

## SINKING FUND.

## UNPAID ASSESSMENTS IN SINKING FUND, JAN. 1, 1898.

<i>Assessment.</i>	<i>Confirmed.</i>	<i>Amt.</i>
Central avenue, opening .....	July 21, 1891.....	4,469 14
Central avenue, grading.....	April 24, 1894.....	1,154 50
Monroe street, grading.....	April 26, 1892.....	1,912 83
Van Houten avenue, grading.....	October 28, 1893.....	1,805 01
Sewer No. 5, Central system.....	July 30, 1892.....	1,036 38
Sewer No. 8, Island system.....	May 28, 1893.....	1,100 14
Sewer No. 13, Passaic Bridge system.	November 18, 1892.....	1,783 74
Sewer No. 14, Main avenue surface water .....	October 11, 1893 .....	2,379 18
Sewer No. 16, Harrison street system.	March 25, 1893.....	1,356 64
Total .....		\$16,997 56
Grand Total .....		\$52,791 66

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN OF POLICE.

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POLICE HEADQUARTERS, {  
PASSAIC, N. J., Jan. 1st, 1898. }

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor.*

SIR:—In accordance with the wise custom established by you I present herewith the annual report of the Police Department.

The year 1897 was happily uneventful in police circles ; as free from instances of misbehavior or insubordination among the officers as from serious crime in the community. Not a single grave charge has been lodged against an officer and not once have I had occasion to consult you, much less arraign any of the members of the force before the Honorable City Council. In fact I am glad to be able to report that the members of the department with rare exceptions, and these only trivial, have merited my cordial approval and proved themselves worthy of the obligations assumed when they joined the department. The best evidence of their efficiency and devotion to duty is the remarkable absence of serious crime or disorder in a city which includes so many and such a varied assortment of foreigners among its population. We have not had a single case of murder or manslaughter during the year. But very few of our prisoners have been sent to State's Prison and two years is the longest term any of their offences merited in the opinion of the Courts. For this rare and surprising immunity we are indebted to the salutary lesson of law and order imposed upon the lawless by the police in past years. I should also add that the police court is entitled to its share of the credit.

The police are upheld and encouraged by the Police Justice, who acts without fear or favor and refuses to yield to the political influences which prevail in most cities and often result in defeating the ends of justice and causing rowdies and reprobates to feel that they are above the law.

The city has been equally free from sneak thieving and burglary, but I attribute this more to good fortune than to



police protection. What I had to say in my last report about the need of more officers in the resident district at night applies with equal if not added force now.

The resident district is growing rapidly, but the police force remains stationary. When first organized, twenty-three years ago, it contained half as many men as there are on it now, although the city is four if not five times larger. In view of the reports from other towns and cities in the suburbs of New York I live in constant fear of an epidemic of sneak thieving and burglary such as they suffer from, and I desire to go on record as fully realizing the inadequacy of the force and to place a fair share of the responsibility on my superiors for their failure to keep the force numerically up to the requirements of the city. Our proximity, by steam and trolley lines and by convenient roads to New York, Jersey City, Newark and Paterson, exposes us greatly to the depredations of sneak thieves. They can go and come under cover of night, and once in either of the places named are almost like needles in a haystack. People find fault with the Police Department for not promptly arresting them and especially for not recovering the stolen property. Such people forget that hours and often days pass before they discover that they have been robbed. I assure you that the police share their annoyance and disappointment, and that if the thief is not apprehended in every case it is not their fault.

In every instance the officer detailed on the case makes diligent inquiries to secure a description of any suspicious persons seen loitering in the neighborhood, but usually without success. The next step is to visit the pawn shops of neighboring cities in the hope of locating the stolen goods. This takes time and involves considerable expense which is generally borne by the officer. If the search proves successful that is reward enough, but if not the officer has to bear the censure of the public as well as the expense.

When the new headquarters of the department in the Municipal Building are ready for occupancy we must have a desk officer there constantly if we are to have the department records properly kept. Such an officer is needed to act on emergency calls received by telephone or in person. We cannot possibly spare one of our present force for the reasons which appear above, and which are more fully explained in my last report.

The construction of the new Erie depot suggests the necessity of having an officer there at all times during the day and

until the stream of travel diminishes in the evening. All cities of our size have such an officer, and I believe if the matter was properly presented to the officers of the Erie Railway Company they would consent to bear a fair share of the expense. This officer, aided by a hack license ordinance, could regulate what now amounts to a considerable nuisance to the traveling public. I refer to the crowd of hackmen who infest the vicinity of the depot, annoy passengers and leave no room for citizens who go and come in their own vehicles. The hack business ought to be licensed and regulated by ordinance, with a system of fines, culminating in the revocation of the license of a persistent offender.

The Board of Education is pressing me for the services of a policeman to act as a truant officer, and, although I cheerfully concede the urgent need of one, I am unable to comply with the request for the reasons already given. A truant officer is needed, not to hunt children who stay away from school for a day or a part of a day occasionally, to swim or to play in summer or to skate or to slide in winter, but to catch and curb the vagrant and vicious youth whose parents cannot or will not care for them. This class is necessarily numerous in a community like ours, which includes so many who have not yet learned to appreciate our public school system.

The whole number of places licensed to sell intoxicating liquors in the city at present is 82, ten wholesale and 72 retail, and this beats all previous records and is, I think, a superabundance. I refer to the subject only because some of the saloons are sources of great trouble to the police, especially those with dance halls attached.

Such statistics as the limited time at my disposal has enabled me to collect follow :

	1897.	1896.	Increase.	Decrease.
Total arrests . . . . .	534	466	68	
Held for the Grand Jury . . . . .	146	151		5
Sent to jail for 10 to 60 days . . . . .	77	60	17	
Fined for violation of city ordinances. . . . .	162	127	35	
Sentences suspended . . . . .	72	51	21	
Discharged . . . . .	71	72		1
Surrendered to other authorities . . . . .	6	5	1	
Total . . . . .	534	466		

	1897.	1896.	Incrse.	Decrse.
Amount of fines collected. . . .	\$838.20	\$671.80	\$156.20	
Fees collected from the county	156.20	179.50		\$23.50
Due " " "	193.50	137.68	55.82	

Total receipts from all  
sources. . . . . \$1,187.90 988.98 198.92

Respectfully submitted,  
WILLIAM HENDRY,  
Captain of Police.

The arrests were made for the following offences :

Assault and battery . . . . .	91
Assault . . . . .	3
Burglary . . . . .	1
Breaking, entering and larceny . . . . .	6
Bastardy . . . . .	2
Cruelty to animals . . . . .	11
Drunk and disorderly . . . . .	104
Drunk and incapable . . . . .	33
Disorderly conduct . . . . .	80
Disorderly persons and vagrants . . . . .	52
Disorderly houses . . . . .	1
Entering and larceny . . . . .	4
Embezzlement . . . . .	2
Felonious assault . . . . .	5
Grand larceny . . . . .	10
Horse stealing . . . . .	7
Infanticide . . . . .	2
Insanity . . . . .	4
Malicious mischief . . . . .	4
Mayhem . . . . .	1
Non-support of family . . . . .	5
Petit larceny . . . . .	34
Rape . . . . .	2
Receiving stolen goods . . . . .	2
Seduction . . . . .	3
Selling liquor without license . . . . .	2
Unlawful cohabiting . . . . .	4
Violation of city ordinances . . . . .	49
Violation of health code . . . . .	2
Witness . . . . .	2
Arrested for other authorities . . . . .	6

Total. . . . . 534

## REPORT OF CITY PHYSICIAN.

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PASSAIC, N. J., JANUARY 1, 1898.

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor City of Passaic.*

DEAR SIR :—I beg to make the following report, from June 1, 1897, to January 1, 1898 :

I have during this period made 371 visits on the sick poor of our city ; have attended to 28 office calls, and performed 6 operations. I have made 35 visits to the City Poor Farm and have attended to 121 patients there. The health of the city at present is very good for this time of the year, when sickness is likely to be present in its various forms.

The management of the Poor Farm at present is excellent, and one can notice a vast change for the better in regard to cleanliness and neatness.

I think we are to be congratulated as a city that we have had no serious epidemics, also that our city is in a very good sanitary condition.

There is one thing I wish to bring to your notice which I think will demand attention again in the near future, and that is the disposal of the garbage material of our city. We are drawing near to the summer season, when we will be face to face again with the question of last year. I would heartily endorse a recommendation from you to our Honorable Board of Council in regard to an appropriation this year for the proper disposal of this material. Trusting this will meet with your approval, I am very truly yours,

A. WARD VAN RIPER,  
City Physician.

## REPORT OF BOARD OF HEALTH.

OFFICE OF BOARD OF HEALTH, )  
PASSAIC, N. J., JANUARY 22, 1898. {

*To the Honorable Andrew McLean, Mayor of the City of Passaic.*

I herewith respectfully submit a condensed report of the Board of Health for the year ending January 1, 1898 :

### CONTAGIOUS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles .....	111
Typhoid Fever .....	12
Diphtheria .....	77
Scarlet Fever .....	33

233

making a total of 233, of which only 14 terminated fatally, this being less than 6 per cent., a record which I am sure will surpass any of the surrounding cities.

No complaints have been made about the drinking water and since the Holly System of pumps have been used the highest points in the city are supplied.

I would again recommend that the upper part of the Fourth Ward be sewerred as soon as possible in order to drain that section of our city.

The disposal of garbage is still very unsatisfactory, but no complaints are made about the collection, which at present is done better than at any previous time.

During the year 202 permits were issued for new buildings which is only 15 less than were issued in Paterson, a city five times the population of ours, during the same time. One hundred and four permits for sewer connections were issued during the same time.

All plumbing work is carefully tested and inspected under the supervision of the Plumbing Inspector.

During the past year the Board purchased a smoke machine and have adopted smoke, introduced under pressure,

as a method of testing finished work, the best known method of testing.

The ordinance providing for the use of fire-escapes on tenement houses should be enforced, the enforcement of which might be left in the hands of this board, in conjunction with the Police Department, as the plans of all new buildings must be registered in this office before the construction of any building is commenced.

The adoption of the fire limit ordinance has been conducive of much good and should be extended so as to include Monroe street, below Columbia avenue and Dayton avenue.

The tenement houses erected during the past year have been as a whole better than those formerly erected, in being furnished with better sanitary conveniences.

All butcher shops, stables, etc., are carefully looked after by the Veterinary Inspector.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT H. SMITH,

Secretary.





## REPORT OF REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS.

PASSAIC, N. J., January 1, 1898.

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor of the City of Passaic:*

SIR:—I hereby submit the following report for the year ending December 31, 1897.

	1897.	1896.	Increase.	Decrease.
Births.....	638	588	50	—
Marriages.....	299	295	4	—
Deaths.....	457	502	—	45

Yours respectfully,

FRED. A. PARKER,

Registrar of Vital Statistics.

## REPORT OF CHIEF ENGINEER OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

For the year ending December 31, 1897.

CITY OF PASSAIC,  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER. }

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor of the City of Passaic.*

In conformity with the provisions of the city ordinances I herewith respectfully submit this, my annual report of the condition and operation of the department during the year ending December 31, 1897. You will find annexed the rolls of the several companies, the apparatus and materials owned by the city and under my supervision, together with a statement of fires and alarms which have occurred during the past year and the amount of loss and insurance as nearly as could be ascertained.

### MANUAL FORCE.

The department consists of 282 men, divided as follows : One chief engineer, one assistant engineer, 157 members of engine companies, 48 members of hose companies, 74 members of hook and ladder companies and one superintendent of fire alarm telegraph.

### APPARATUS.

#### ENGINE COMPANY No. 1.

Engine, second-class La France, in good condition ; hose carriage, built by Rumsey & Co., 1895, carries 700 feet of hose, 550 feet in good condition, 150 feet in poor condition, two three-gallon Rex extinguishers.

#### ENGINE COMPANY No. 2.

Engine, third-class Clapp & Jones, in good condition ; hose carriage, built by Rumsey & Co., 1895, carries 800 feet of hose, 650 feet in good condition, 200 feet in fair condition, two three-gallon Rex extinguishers.



## ENGINE COMPANY No. 3.

Engine, third-class La France, purchased 1895 and in good condition ; hose carriage, 800 feet of hose ; carriage condemned (new one ordered.)

## HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY No. 1.

Truck built by Gleason & Bailey ; carries full equipment and in good condition ; two six-gallon extinguishers.

## HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY No. 2.

New truss-ladder truck, in first class condition, with full equipment ; two three-gallon extinguishers.

## HOSE COMPANY No. 1.

Hose wagon, built by R. J. Van Dien, 1896 ; carries 1,000 feet of hose and in good condition ; two three-gallon extinguishers.

## HOSE COMPANY No. 2.

Hose carriage built by Amoskeag Mfg. Co. ; carries 550 feet of hose, in good condition ; 100 feet in fair condition ; two three-gallon extinguishers.

## CHEMICAL ENGINE COMPANY No. 1.

Engine built by Holloway Mfg. Co. ; carries two thirty-gallon chemical tanks and 150 feet 3-4 hose (new.)

## HOSE CARRIAGE (Reserve.)

Hose carriage in fair condition ; carries 350 feet of hose, in good condition ; 50 feet in poor condition ; now in service at house of Hook and Ladder Company No. 2.

## HOUSES.

Engine Co. No. 1 and Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1 are at present in temporary quarters awaiting the completion of their new house. Engine Co. No. 2—House in good condition ; Engine Co. No. 3—House in good condition ; Hook and Ladder Co. No. 2—House in good condition. Hose Co. No. 1—House in very poor and unsafe condition, the floor being almost rotted away and the roof leaky, and is unfit for use as quarters for a fire company.

Hose Co. No. 2—New house (not yet accepted) in very poor

condition, the cellar constantly filling with water, causing the swelling of doors so that it is impossible to keep the house closed.

### HORSES.

We have in use in the department 16 horses, 11 on call and 5 in actual service.

### LOCATION OF HOUSES.

Engine No. 1—Lexington avenue, near Monroe street (temporary.)

Engine No. 2—Passaic street, near Second street.

Engine No. 3—McLean street, near Park place.

Truck No. 1—Lexington avenue, near Monroe street (temporary.)

Truck No. 2—Westervelt place and Park avenue.

Hose No. 1—Bloomfield avenue and Linden street.

Hose No. 2—Van Winkle avenue and President street.

Chemical Engine No. 1—Westervelt place and Park avenue.

### COMMITTEE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

John J. Hogan, Chairman.

John J. Welsh,

Hamilton K. Beatty.

### OFFICERS.

Thomas Foxhall, Chief Engineer.

Peter Borneman, Assistant Engineer.

Charles R. Newman, Sup't Fire Alarm Telegraph.

### ENGINE COMPANY No. 1.

Gustave Engler, Foreman.

Neil Casteline, First Assistant Foreman.

Fred. Everett, Second Assistant Foreman.

William Schmidt, Engineer.

David Bogert, Assistant Engineer.

Otto Smith, Stoker.

### ENGINE COMPANY No. 2.

Patrick McGuire, Foreman.

J. B. Greeley, Assistant Foreman.

M. P. McMahon, Engineer.

Joseph Greeley, Assistant Engineer.  
M. Kane, Stoker.

ENGINE COMPANY No. 3.

Albert Romosa, Foreman.  
James Doyle, First Assistant Foreman.  
Cornelius Birkhoff, Second Assistant Foreman.  
Richard Post, Engineer.  
Matthew Flanigan, Assistant Engineer.  
Peter Strayer, Stoker.

HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY No. 1.

Albert Totten, Foreman.  
P. V. R. Post, First Assistant Foreman.  
Frank Haas, Second Assistant Foreman.

HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY No. 2.

Alvin L. Hayward, Foreman.  
F. A. Veitch, First Assistant Foreman.  
J. W. Clemons, Second Assistant Foreman.

HOSE COMPANY No. 1.

Amzi Post, Foreman.  
Herman Friend, Jr., Assistant Foreman.

HOSE COMPANY No. 2.

John Tanis, Foreman.  
Orie Troast, Assistant Foreman.

**HOSE.**

This important branch has received careful attention. There are on hand 4,400 feet; there are 3,350 feet in good condition; in fair condition, 900 feet. There have been purchased 950 feet, which was barely sufficient for the needs of the department.

**REMARKS.**

The apparatus has been kept in good repair. During the year we have had an addition of one new H. & L. truck for H. & L. Co. No. 2; one new house completed for Hose Co. No. 2, and one new house in course of erection for Engine Co. No. 1 and H. & L. Co. No. 1. No. 2 engine has been overhauled and repainted and is now in first-class condition. The

chemical engine has been placed in commission and has done good service.

I would respectfully recommend as an improvement to the apparatus that two 30-foot ladders (truss) be purchased for No. 1 H. & L. truck as side ladders ; also that a new house be erected for Hose Co. No. 1, as their present quarters are totally unfit for service.

There has been one call for assistance to a fire in Wallington which was promptly answered, and valuable assistance was rendered.

Engine Co. No. 1 has been ordered out for special service on two occasions, viz : Pumping water from old City Hall building and pumping water from Central avenue.

Hose Co. No. 1 has been ordered out for special service on one occasion, viz : Supplying the new hospital with water from a hydrant.

#### CONCLUSION.

To his honor the mayor and gentlemen of the City Council, for their acts of kindness and interest ; to the Police Department, for their hearty co-operation with the firemen in saving and protecting the property of our citizens ; to the officers and members of the department, for their promptness and hearty co-operation, I return my grateful acknowledgments.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS FOXHALL,

Chief Engineer.



# RECORD OF ALARMS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1897.

DATE.	HOUR.	BOXES.	OWNERS.	OCCUPANT.	LOCATION.	DESCRIPTION.	LOSS CONT'N'TS	LOSS BUILD'G.	ORIGIN OF FIRE.
1897.									
Jan. 20	4.19 p.m.	25	Speer Cal. Port Wine Co.	Owners	Washington place	1 story frame	\$ 665 00	\$ 200 00	False alarm
Feb. 18	10.15 "	131	Mrs. Aldrich	Owner	232 Main ave.	1 " shed	Nothing	Nothing	Unknown
Apr. 12	9.30 "	142			Cor. 6th & Passaic sts	1 " shed	50 00	Nothing	Ignition of gasoline
Apr. 13	5.15 "	131	Peter Hileagers	Owner	Main ave.	shed			Unknown
" 18	8.45 "	25			Mattimore st.	3 story frame	Nothing	10 00	Unknown
" 19	12.05 "	15			Second st.	2 " brick	Nothing	Nothing	Boiling fat
" 20	12.35 "	413	Brumberg flats	M. D. Preskill	Monroe st.	2 1/2 " frame	"	"	Defective chimney
" 22	1.15 "	62			Main & Highland aves.	2 1/2 " frame	"	"	
June 5	9.00 "	still alm.					One Life		Oil stove
" 7	9.00 a.m.	16	Henry Muhs	Owner	Passaic st. & Columbia av	Frame dwelling	Nothing	20 00	Sparks
" 7	7.30 p.m.	41			Dayton av & Mattimore st	Smoke house	Nothing	Nothing	False alarm
July 3	5.00 a.m.	33	Frank Williams	Owner	River road	2 story frame	2,000 00	8,000 00	Unknown
" 5	11.40 "	43			Ann st.	Frame dwelling	Nothing	10 00	Fireworks
" 10	12.10 "	62	George E. Bailey	Owner	37 Summer st.	"	"	300 00	Lightning
Aug. 16	3.20 a.m.	212	A. P. Conant	Owner	26 & 28 Lincoln st.	2 story frame	200 00	10 00	Lamp explosion
Sept. 6	8.00 p.m.	14	Mrs. Bertha Koert	Owner	168 1/2 Second st.	3 " brick	Nothing	5 00	Unknown
" 10	8.20 a.m.	16	Falstrom & Tornqvist	Owners	272 Passaic st.	3 " frame	5,000 00	5,000 00	Overheated stove
" 10	10.24 "	131	G. J. Lemley	Meyers & Son	Main ave. & Passaic st.	3 " frame	Nothing	Nothing	Unknown
" 21	7.20 "	131	Schulting		330 Harrison st.	2 1/2 " frame	Nothing	Nothing	Gasoline
" 23	12.00 m.	412			Passaic & Second sts	2 " brick	50 00	"	Unknown
Oct. 2	9.00 a.m.	15	Ricardo flats	F. U. Stoll & Co.	Main ave.	2 " brick	50 00	150 00	"
" 5	7.50 "	131			Washington place	2 " frame	Nothing	250 00	Overheated stove
Nov. 18	2.30 p.m.	25	Pepoon	Vansfield P. Co.	Monroe & Elm sts	2 " frame	100 00	50 00	Spontaneous combustion
" 20	4.30 "	412	Brumberg flats	Linschitz	47 & 49 Second st.	3 " brick	2,000 00	2,000 00	Spontaneous combustion
" 28	11 15 "	15	Botany Mill Co.	Botany Mill Co.	Dayton av & Mattimore st	2 " frame	Nothing	Nothing	Sparks in sawdust
Dec. 6	1.30 "	41	Continental Match Co.	Owners	Bloomfield ave.	2 " frame	Nothing	Nothing	
" 30	6.55 "	35							

## REPORT OF THE FIRE ALARM SUPERINTENDENT.

OFFICE OF CITY ELECTRICIAN. }  
Passaic, N. J., Jan. 13, 1898. }

*Hon. Andrew Mc Lean, Mayor of the City of Passaic :*

Dear Sir:— I have the honor to submit to you the annual report in connection with my office for the year ending December 31, 1897.

The Fire Alarm System consists of

- 1 tower striker.
- 1 fire whistle.
- 1 3-circuit repeater.
- 5 18-in. gongs.
- 6 indicators.
- 1 8-in. gong.
- 2 6-in. gongs.
- 29 street boxes.
- 120 cells of battery.
- 15 1-2 miles of line.

Private boxes, etc., consist of :

- 2 6-in. gongs.
- 3 5-in. gongs.
- 2 boxes.

Aside from keeping the lines in proper condition there have been no new additions, whatsoever, applied to the Fire Alarm Telegraph system the past year. The Fire Alarm batteries, machinery, etc., have been placed temporarily in Mr. Abbott's barn awaiting the completion of the new Municipal building.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. NEWMAN,

Superintendent Fire Alarm Telegraph.



## REPORT OF OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

OFFICE OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR, {  
PASSAIC, N. J., January 3, 1898. }

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor.*

SIR:—I herewith submit my annual report of the relief furnished to the poor and of other details of my office for the year ending December 31, 1897:

No. of Families relieved.		Total cost.	No. of Families relieved.		Total cost.
January . . . . .	45	\$293.50	July . . . . .	42	\$264.50
February . . . . .	50	323.50	August . . . . .	46	349.50
March . . . . .	54	442.00	September . . . . .	45	273.00
April . . . . .	44	294.00	October . . . . .	43	270.50
May . . . . .	41	332.50	November . . . . .	42	319.50
June . . . . .	43	277.00	December . . . . .	45	263.00

The total cost for groceries, etc., furnished to the outdoor poor of the city for the fiscal year is \$3,702.50.

The average number of families relieved monthly is 45.

I have expended for the payment of funeral expenses \$160.00, and for sending applicants for relief to their former homes \$30.00.

The amounts paid to the hospitals for the care of poor patients are as follows:

Emergency Hospital . . . . .	\$321.93
St. Mary's Hospital . . . . .	260.14
House of Divine Providence . . . . .	104.00

a total of \$686.07.

The cost of running the Poor House, as far as furnishing provisions, etc., for the year, is as follows:

January . . . . .	\$ 54.54	July . . . . .	\$ 79.39
February . . . . .	40.76	August . . . . .	66.80
March . . . . .	63.62	September . . . . .	64.84
April . . . . .	68.83	October . . . . .	75.57
May . . . . .	75.50	November . . . . .	90.83
June . . . . .	68.60	December . . . . .	123.60

or a total of \$872.88.

There has been an average of twenty-two persons to care for at the Poor House.

The Poor House has been put in proper repair and is under the superintendency of Thomas C. Mather, who took charge the first part of November, vice J. A. Sproull, resigned.

The total cost of running the department, all expenses and repairs at Poor House, salaries, etc., for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1897, is \$7,912.32.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL FOGARTY,

Overseer of the Poor.





## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF POOR FARM.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT. }  
January 3, 1898, }

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor:*

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to submit to you the annual report in connection with my office for the year ending December 31, 1897.

The number of inmates during the year at the Alms House was as follows:

January.....	16	July.....	19
February.....	22	August.....	22
March.....	26	September.....	20
April.....	27	October.....	19
May.....	19	November.....	27
June.....	21	December.....	26

An average of twenty-two.

The farm produced nearly all the vegetables used up to the present time. Thirty bushels of potatoes, 100 bushels of ears of corn, twenty bushels of rye, fifteen bushels of oats, hay and cornstalks to last until March, and five hundred pounds of pork.

We have had a good supply of milk since December 1st.

The amount expended for supplies, etc., is as follows:

Groceries, meat, etc.,	\$872 88	Shoes and repairing,	\$46 60
Dry Goods and cloth-		Hardware and tools.	28 00
ing, etc.,.....	244 79	Horse shoeing.....	12 25
Milk.....	41 52	Drug store sundries.	19 90
Hay and feed.....	65 29	Plowing and labor..	24 00
Coal.....	103 97		

The health of the inmates is good, considering the age of most of them, with the exception of the chronic cases that have been returned from the hospital.

The Alms House is now in good condition, the walls and ceilings having been repaired.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS C. MATHER,

Superintendent Alms House and Farm.

## REPORT OF CITY ATTORNEY.

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PASSAIC, N. J., January 10, 1898.

*To His Honor, Andrew McLean, Mayor of the City of Passaic.*

SIR:—In rendering to you my report for the year 1897 I would respectfully report that during the year some twenty-three assessments for opening streets and divers other improvements have been sent to me for the Court's confirmation, that all said assessments have been confirmed by the Court without any changes, although in many instances there have been objections raised by the property owners.

I do not think it would be out of place in this, my report, to say that I have in many instances been called upon by the Board of Assessors to advise with them as to the laying of different assessments and I have even gone so far as to make suggestions to the Board without being called upon by them, when in my opinion I was led to believe that they were in the error and by such conferences I have found that errors have been guarded against and that the Board do their full duty, both to the city as well as to the property owners. The Court itself on several occasions has shown great respect for the opinion of our Board of Assessors, going so far in many instances as to say to the objectors that he has found our assessments always equitable and just and thereby sustaining the Board.

I have at the present time eight small reports in my custody awaiting the confirmation of the Court, but I see no reason why they should not be confirmed.

There is nothing in connection with my office but what is and has been during the past year disposed of and nothing remains in an unfinished condition, with but one exception. The one exception is the matter of the Municipal bonds which were heretofore sold to Harris Brothers, of New York, and who afterwards refused to take the bonds, claiming that the law under which they were issued was unconstitutional. These bonds as well as the School bonds which were more recently sold and purchased by a firm in Boston, who have also refused to take

the same for the same reason. Both of these matters are now in the hands of the Honorable John W. Griggs, and it is our intention to have a bill prepared and passed by the Legislature which convenes the first part of next week, thereby removing any and all objections thereto. I feel as though before passing the above matter as to the objections raised to these bond issues that, particularly as to the last issue of bonds, there have been several similar issues of bonds for the last several years and never have they been objected to, particularly for the reasons raised by the purchasers. Nevertheless, rather than have any further delay and so that the city may be able to realize the moneys called for in the said bonds at an early date His Honor and myself have decided to have these bills prepared and passed by the Legislature so that there may not be any question as to their legality.

As previously stated by me, with the exception of these bond issues, there remains nothing in an unfinished condition in connection with my office.

Respectfully,

WALTER KIP,

City Attorney.



## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS

OFFICE OF THE SUPT. OF STREETS. {  
PASSAIC, N. J., Jan. 3rd, 1898. }

*Hon. Andrew Mc Lean, Mayor:*

Sir:—I herewith submit my report of the workings of my department for the year ending December 31st, 1897:

The following streets have been repaired: Main avenue, Bloomfield avenue. Harrison street and Second street.

Passaic street from Main avenue to Ninth street has been top-dressed with broken stone.

During the summer the two heavy storms we had, washed out President street, a part of Jefferson street, Highland avenue, Summer street, Westervelt Place, Brook avenue, and to further protect Lafayette avenue, the city was compelled to build a permanent concrete gutter between High and Erie streets. The damage to the city by the storms was at least \$5,000.

I have relaid a number of crosswalks and gutters in various parts of the city.

I have used 1,463 tons of broken stone in making the necessary repairs on streets and in excavations made by plumbers at a cost of \$1,667.17.

There have been 164 permits for street excavations and 56 builders' permits issued by me during the year.

The total amount of money expended for labor on streets as per my pay roll, was \$8,207.75.

The total cost of sprinkling the streets of the city was \$1,937.16.

The contract price for removing the ashes and garbage from the streets of the city \$3,400.

There has been received for street excavation permits issued during the year, \$566.90.

I would again call your attention to the unsatisfactory condition of Passaic street. It should be paved with some ma-

terial more durable than macadam, as it is a constant drain on the street appropriation to keep it in repair.

I wish to extend my thanks to the Committee on Streets and to other city officials for their kindness and for the assistance rendered me during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS GIBLIN,

Superintendent of Streets.



## REPORT OF BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS, }  
PASSAIC, N. J., Jan. 1, 1898. }

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor.*

DEAR SIR:—We beg to submit the annual report of the Board of Assessors for the year 1897:

### TAXES.

The real and personal property of the city as valued by the board was as follows:

Real estate.....	\$6,460,272 00
Personal estate.....	1,006,122 00

Total.....	\$7,466,394 00
Less exemptions for soldiers, firemen and militia.....	140,085 00

Net total.....	\$7,326,309 00
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Our share of county and state school tax as apportioned by the County Board of Assessors was as follows:

County tax.....	\$ 49,839 57
State school tax.....	19,633 17

	\$ 69,472 74
The amount asked for by the City Council was ..	148,848 00

Making a total amount to be raised .....\$218,320 74  
an increase over 1896 of about \$17,000.00, nearly \$8,000.00 of which was for the county.

Our tax rate was therefore made \$3.00 per \$100.00 as against \$2.92 in 1896 and \$2.98 in 1895.

### COMMISSIONERS OF APPEAL.

Two hundred and twenty-two complaints were received and considered by the Commissioners of Appeal which resulted in a reduction in our valuation of \$28,450.00.



The reductions in 1896 were.....	\$10,225 00
“ “ “ 1895 “ .....	51,800 00

The repeal of the dog tax ordinance and the substitution of the license for the same which we recommended in our last report and which your Honor so kindly endorsed has been a great relief to the commissioners and at the same time we believe the general public are better pleased.

#### PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM TAXATION.

The following list shows the character and amount in valuations of our exempt property :

Public school property .....	\$186,000 00
Other “ “ .....	20,000 00
Public property (other than school property)....	121,700 00
Church property.....	378,300 00
Property used for charitable purposes. ....	27,000 00
Cemetery property.....	20,000 00
Amount in valuations allowed members of fire companies. ....	113,110 00
Amount in valuations allowed veterans .....	24,825 00
“ “ “ “ members of militia. ....	2,150 00

Total amount.....\$893,085 00  
an increase over 1896 of about \$50,000.00.

#### SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS.

Since our last report the following assessments were confirmed by the Circuit Court :

Sewering of Linden street, Boulevard, Aspen street, Lafayette avenue, Reid avenue; the grading, etc., of Passaic street, Rosz place, Randolph and High streets, Westervelt place; benefits for opening Meade avenue, Hope avenue, Maple, Erie and Garden streets and Franklin avenue; widening of Paulison avenue; change of grade of Franklin avenue; macadamizing of Dayton, Central and Gregory avenues and First street; also damages for opening Hope avenue from Jackson street to Sherman street.

The following are awaiting confirmation: Storm water sewers in Gregory and Bloomfield avenues; flagging Wall street; grading Parker avenue and Summer street; grading, etc., Meade avenue, Boulevard, Maple street; macadamizing of Harrison, High, Monroe streets, Lafayette, Paulison and Franklin avenues; sewers in Jefferson and Quincy streets;

change of grade in Lexington avenue ; also award of damages for land taken for street purposes in the Fourth Ward and for the opening of Paulison avenue and Montgomery street.

The opening of Myrtle avenue from Howe to Main avenue which was under way last year was suddenly cut short by the City Council in April last ordering all proceedings in the matter discontinued.

The improvement would be a great benefit to the upper end of the Second Ward and we hope the Council will determine to complete it during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

THOMAS McMAHON, Clerk.





## REPORT OF THE CITY SURVEYOR.

OFFICE OF THE CITY SURVEYOR, )  
PASSAIC, N. J., Jan. 1st, 1898. }

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor :*

SIR :—I have the honor to submit this, my eighth annual report of the work planned and supervised, by this department during the year 1897.

Much of the work undertaken by the city in 1896 was, at the date of my last annual report, unfinished, due mostly to the lateness of the date at which the work was let. Only one piece of work which was begun in 1896 now remains unfinished; viz: Paulison avenue macadam, and this state of affairs is due to the fact that Paulison avenue has never been opened its full width northwest of Peach Orchard Road. This, however, will soon be remedied, as will be noted hereinafter.

There has not been an improvement suggested or undertaken by the Council during the past two years, which has not been needed and which has not also been of value to the community, and there have been some which would have resulted in great good to the city, Myrtle avenue opening and improvement being one of the latter.

I now give in alphabetical order the avenues or streets, etc., which have been improved, or for which ordinances have been approved, but which for one reason or other are yet unimproved, viz :

**BEACH STREET.**

This is a short street, in the Third ward, running from the Boulevard to Linden street, north of Maple street. The lines of the street as they exist upon the ground, are more than eight feet farther north than they should be. Upon petition, an ordinance was approved Nov. 13th, 1895, to accept the street as it is now laid out on the ground and as the fences are located. The Board of Assessors now has this matter under advisement.

**BERGEN STREET.**

An ordinance to grade this street from First to Fourth street, was approved January 22d last, and bids were asked for, opened, and it was seen that Messrs. McGuire & Ryan were the lowest bidders, but remonstrances were sent in soon after and the contract has not been awarded.

**BLOOMFIELD AVENUE.**

The storm water sewer in Bloomfield avenue from Gregory avenue to Main avenue was completed and accepted by the city council on April 19th last and the costs were declared by the council on May 3d to be the sum of \$9,256.35. The work was done by the Union Building & Construction Co. and was practically finished at the date of my last report.

**THE BOULEVARD.**

The improvement of this fine avenue, (which consisted of grading, curbing, guttering, flagging sewerage etc.) from Pennington avenue to Bloomfield avenue, was completed by the U. B. & C. Co. in July last and the avenue was accepted by the city on August 16th and the costs declared Sept. 20th, to be the sum of \$10,922.92. The sidewalks of this portion of the avenue are 18 feet wide and the roadway 34 feet wide.

**CENTRAL AVENUE.**

The work of putting down macadam on this avenue from Lexington avenue to the city limits, was completed by Mr. Frank J. Marley, the contractor, and accepted by the city late in 1896, but the costs were not declared until January 4th last. They were \$8,027.40. The New Jersey Electric Railway Co. paid \$3,771.70, leaving as the share of the property and the city, \$4,255.70.

**DAYTON AVENUE.**

While the work of macadamizing Dayton avenue between Monroe street and President street, was finished and was accepted in 1896 the costs were not made up and declared until January 4th last. They were \$5,705.79.

**DOCK STREET.**

This street lies in the First ward and extends southerly from Aspen street southerly to the coal yard of Messrs. Campbell & Co. or about 200 feet from Aspen street. The

ordinance to improve this street, which is to consist of curb and gutter, with two catch basins at the lower end of the street, was approved November 22d and the contract was awarded to Mr. Wm. J. Ryan, December 20th last.

#### ERIE STREET.

The ordinance to open, grade and otherwise improve this street from Main avenue to Aycrigg avenue was approved May 22nd, 1894. There was great delay in opening the street, but it was finally opened and the contract was given to Messrs. McGuire August 23rd, 1894. The time for its completion expired November 18th, 1896 and yet it has not been finished and accepted by the city.

#### FIRST STREET.

The work of macadamizing First street was practically completed late in 1896, but was not finally finished and accepted by the council until April 19th, 1897. The costs were declared May 3rd, to be \$5,376.09.

#### FRANKLIN AVENUE.

There were two separate improvements of Franklin avenue executed early in 1897; one under an ordinance approved June 8th, 1896, to change the grade of that part of Franklin avenue lying between Van Houten avenue and Brook avenue, and to relay the curb and gutter and the flag in accordance with said ordinance, and the other improvement was done under an ordinance approved August 5th, 1896, calling for the macadamizing of the avenue between Van Houten avenue and the southerly limits of the city, and the laying curb and gutter where it had not previously been laid.

The change of grade was completed by Messrs. McGuire & Ryan in December, 1896, and the work was accepted in January, 1897. The costs were declared February 1st to be \$784.26. The latter contract was awarded to Mr. Edmund Speer. He began the work in 1896, but did not complete it until the middle of July last. The council on August 2nd last declared the costs to be \$6,463.45.

#### GARDEN STREET.

The opening of that part of Garden street (which was unopened) lying between Howe avenue and Main avenue, having

been confirmed by the court early in the year, an ordinance was approved June 14th last for the grading and further improvement of the street, and the work was let to Messrs. Clark & Smith. The work is done and the street will probably be accepted by the city council at its next meeting.

The cost of opening Garden street was declared on January 4th, 1896, to be the sum of \$6,749.44.

#### GREGORY AVENUE.

The construction of the storm water sewer in Gregory avenue delayed the completion of the macadam in Gregory avenue between Meade avenue and Bloomfield avenue so that it was not finished and accepted until early in January, 1897. The sewer was also completed and accepted early in January, 1897. The costs of the sewer were declared on January 18th to be the sum of \$2,225.86 and those of the macadam on February 1st to be \$12,255.45. The sewer was laid by the U. B. & C. Co. and the macadam by Mr. F. J. Marley.

#### HARRISON STREET.

Early in March last, the work of macadamizing Harrison street from Lexington avenue to Parker avenue, was awarded to Frank J. Marley and the work was finished and accepted by the city August 16th. The costs were on September 20th declared to be \$6,653.75. The work was expeditiously done.

#### HIGH STREET.

The contract for macadamizing High street from Gregory avenue to Van Houten avenue was awarded late in 1896, but was not finished and accepted until September 20th last. The costs were declared on October 4th to be \$10,976.46.

#### HOBART STREET.

Hobart street, a short but closely built up street in the Fourth ward, and lying between Dayton avenue and the Dundee canal, suffered so greatly from the heavy rains of last fall that the council decided, in order to preserve the street and the sewer, etc., to construct a retaining wall at the foot of the street along the canal. This has been completed and has greatly improved the appearance of the street. The cost of the wall will be not far from \$380.00.

**HOPE AVENUE**

The costs of opening Hope avenue from Jackson street to Sherman street were on March 15th declared to be \$2,716.64 and the Board of Assessors were instructed to assess the benefits accordingly. On June 21st an ordinance was approved to grade and otherwise improve the avenue between Washington place and Harrison street. The contract was awarded to the U. B. & C. Co.

**JEFFERSON STREET.**

The property owners fronting upon that part of Jefferson street lying between the Dundee canal and Hope avenue petitioned the council to construct a sewer in that portion of the street. An ordinance was accordingly approved August 18th, and the work was given to Mr. James Maybury. The sewer was finished and accepted November 4th and the costs were on November 15th declared to be \$831.15.

**LAFAYETTE AVENUE.**

The work of laying a sewer in Lafayette avenue between Lincoln street and Wickham street was completed by Messrs. McGuire & Ryan and accepted by the city on June 7th, 1897, and the costs were on June 21st declared to be \$1,655.52.

Mr. Frank J. Marley secured the contract to macadamize Lafayette avenue, from Wickham street to River Drive, late in 1896 and completed it on August 16th. The work was accepted on September 20th and the costs were on October 4th declared to be the sum of \$15,852.17.

**LEXINGTON AVENUE,**

The grade of this avenue has in the past not been adhered to by the various street superintendents, and the Boards of Freeholders who made it a county road and so macadamized it, who raised the grade above that established by the city years ago. The result has been that at its intersection with Sherman street, particularly, it was so much above grade that when the latter street was graded and the curbs laid a bad condition of affairs was created. In order to remedy this, the owners of the property fronting upon that portion of Lexington avenue lying between Van Buren and Sherman streets, petitioned to have the grade changed and the curb, gutter and flag relaid. An ordinance to that effect was passed by the council and approved November 16th, 1896, to do this, and the contract was



awarded to Messrs. McGuire & Ryan. The work was accepted by the city on November 4th and the costs declared November 15th to be \$179.94.

#### MAIN AVENUE.

No curb and gutter has been ever laid upon the southwesterly side of Main avenue north of Prospect street. An ordinance to lay curb and gutter from Prospect street north to Summer street was passed by council and approved by the mayor November 10th and the contract was awarded to Mr. Jacob J. Van Noordt. He at once proceeded with the work and had it well under way when the validity of the contract was questioned by one of the property owners upon the line of the work, and further prosecution of the work was suspended. One of the points at issue is whether the Committee on Streets and Assessments upon which the council had conferred full power to advertise for bids and to let the work, had power to refuse to accept the bid of a firm which had been very dilatory in the prosecution of other work, and which had not given thorough satisfaction previously.

#### MAPLE STREET.

The grading, curbing, sewerage, etc. of this street between Linden street and Paulison avenue was begun in August, 1896, but was not completed until September 20th last when it was accepted by the city. The costs were declared on October 4th to be \$3,781.63. The street as it now is opened extends from Paulison avenue to the property of Jos. Adams sons, near the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad. On the southwest of the D. L. & W. R. R. it runs too near the line of Howard avenue as shown on the city maps.

#### MEADE AVENUE.

Work upon this avenue was begun in 1896, but was not finished until July last and accepted August 16th. The costs were declared September 20th to be \$7,692.56.

#### MONROE STREET.

At the time when the New Jersey Electric Railway company obtained its franchise from the city for its Monroe and Second street line or loop, it agreed, as a condition upon which your Honor consented to approve the ordinance, to put down macadam on Monroe street between Hamilton avenue and

Second street. Early last summer, upon being notified by the city to proceed with this work, it awarded the contract to the U. B. & C. Co., which at once began laying the macadam. The city then on October 6th, 1897, ordained that that portion of Monroe street, between Hamilton avenue and Lexington avenue be macadamized and awarded the contract for doing this to the same contracting Company. The work has all been completed, but has not yet been accepted by the city.

#### MONTGOMERY STREET.

That part of Montgomery street lying between Peach Orchard Road and Paulison avenue was, by ordinance approved October 15th, 1897, ordered opened and the Board of Assessors instructed to condemn the land necessary and to award for the lands taken and for the damages, etc.

On October 27th an ordinance to grade the street between Paulison avenue and the Peach Orchard Road was approved. When this improvement is fully completed, a much desired outlet from Paulison avenue to Peach Orchard Road and by the last road to Clifton and Athenia will be secured.

#### MYRTLE AVENUE.

An ordinance to open, grade, curb, gutter and flag this avenue from Howe avenue to Main avenue was approved July 28th, 1896, but further action was early last Spring deferred until "a more propitious time." In my opinion this would not have been an expensive street to improve and the opposition to its being opened and further improved was a mistake. It would have given a much desired outlet from the heart of the second ward to Paterson and Clifton.

#### PARKER AVENUE.

The grading of this avenue was one of those which were begun in 1896, but went over into 1897 owing to the early approach of cold weather. The work was accepted about July 1st and the costs were declared on August 2nd to be the sum of \$3,179.22.

#### PAULISON AVENUE.

In 1896 ordinances to improve this avenue were approved as follows, viz:

To widen between Pennington and Passaic avenues, January 8th, 1896.



To lay macadam, etc., Wickham street to River Drive, September 9th, 1897.

To lay sewer, Wickham street to Maple street, November 16th, 1897.

To widen sidewalks Pennington to Passaic avenue, November 16th, 1897.

The improvements were all carried out to completion except the macadamizing which was completed as far north as Grant street but was stopped until that part of Paulison avenue between Peach Orchard Road and Montgomery street could be opened. To remedy this condition of affairs, ordinances were passed to open Paulison avenue as above stated and to vacate a part of Peach Orchard Road. The Board of Assessors has condemned the lands for the opening of Paulison avenue and very soon the improvement of Paulison avenue, will be wholly completed.

The sewer in Paulison avenue from Maple street to Wickham street was accepted by the city on June 7th, 1897, and the costs declared June 21st to be \$1,179.79. This sewer was constructed before the macadam was put down in order to prevent the latter being torn up for the purpose of laying a sewer when an outlet might be provided. As it is now no one can use the sewer until such outlet be provided, and of course no assessment for the cost of its construction can be levied until it can be put to use.

The widening of that part of Paulison avenue between Pennington avenue and Passaic avenue, was, by resolution passed January 4th, last, declared to be \$3,409.86.

#### PEACH ORCHARD ROAD,

This old road was laid in 1845 from Bloomfield road along what is now Paulison avenue, to a point 1,650 feet north, thence it deflects to the right on an angle of about forty-five degrees for 533 feet; thence north and parallel to Paulison avenue for 841 feet; thence to the left on an angle of about forty-five degrees for 427 feet, and thence north along the center line of Paulison avenue, 250 feet to and into the township of Acquackanonk. That part lying between Paulison avenue and Montgomery street has been vacated, the ordinance for this having been approved October 15th last.

#### QUINCY STREET.

An ordinance to grade Quincy street, between Hamilton

avenue and Hope avenue was approved July 23d, and the contract was awarded to Mr. Aaron Sluissman. This work was let at an extremely low figure and I am not surprised that it yet remains unfinished although the time for its completion has long ago expired. I have urged the contractor to go on with his contract but he makes little progress and we shall probably call upon his bondsmen to finish the work. An ordinance to lay a sewer in Quincy street, from Central avenue to a connection with the sewer in Elm street, was approved August 18, and the contract was awarded to Mr. James Maybury. He has finished it and it was accepted on November 19th, 1897.

#### REID AVENUE.

The costs of the sewer which was laid in Reid avenue, east of Ascension street in 1896, were on January 4th, last, declared to be \$701.54.

Recently the owner of most of the property fronting upon that part of Reid avenue, lying between Ascension street and Van Houten avenue, Mr. Alfred Burrows, petitioned to be allowed to lay a sewer of the standard size of lateral sewers in front of his property. The petition was granted.

#### SUMMER STREET.

The grading of Summer street, west of Main avenue, as far as Wilson street, was begun in 1896, but was not completed and accepted by the city until May 17th, last. The costs were declared at the meeting of the council held June 7th to be \$2,816.13.

On December 20th an ordinance to lay a sewer in Summer street from Myrtle avenue to connect with the sewer in Central avenue was approved and the contract awarded to Jacob J. Nan Noordt.

#### UNION AVENUE.

This is a small or rather short piece of street necessary as the Passaic approach to the new Union avenue bridge across the Passaic river between Rutherford and Passaic, and may be considered rather as an extension of Union avenue, Rutherford, than an extension or a part even of Union avenue, in this city.

On February 17th last an ordinance to grade this street was approved and the contract was awarded to Messrs. McGuire and Ryan who had it finished and accepted by the city

May 17th. The costs were declared on June 7th to be \$721.47. Since this was done it has been discovered that the Board of Chosen Freeholders, is, by law, compelled to open and grade all approaches to bridges, and that Board has made arrangements to reimburse the city for its outlay.

#### VAN HOUTEN AVENUE.

On July 23d last, you approved an ordinance to lay curb and gutter upon the southwesterly side of the avenue from Passaic avenue to Spring street. The Board of Freeholders had determined to put down macadam upon the avenue between the points above mentioned, and it was necessary to lay curb and gutter to better preserve the lines of the street and the macadam. It was a mistake (which the property holders see now) that the opposite side of the street was not also curbed and guttered. The work was done by the Union Building and Construction Co. and has been completed some time, but has not yet been accepted by the city.

#### WALL STREET.

Wall street was formerly called North Passaic street, afterwards Passaic street, but was on January 13th, last, named Wall street, in honor of the late Hon. Robert J. Wall, councilman from the Fourth ward. It extends from Sixth street easterly to the Passaic river at the "Iron Bridge."

An ordinance to lay flag upon the southerly side of the street from Sixth street to the iron bridge was approved early in the year and the work was given to Messrs. Clark & Smith, who completed it and had it accepted by the city on August 16th, last. The costs were on September 20th declared to be \$459.51.

#### WESTERVELT PLACE.

At the time of my last report the grading, etc., of this street was under way. It was finished and accepted May 17th, and the costs, \$4,437.74, were declared June 7th last.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

There was not a large amount of new work done during the past year. The bulk of the work done was by way of completion of contracts begun late in 1896.

I have above, given all of the important improvements carried out by the city during the year. Property owners have, however, undertaken a number of improvements which

are of importance to the city, among which are the following, viz:

The Henle Land Co. has graded Jackson street from Central avenue to Lexington avenue.

It has also graded Van Buren street and Quincy street between the same points.

Harry Meyers has opened, graded and otherwise improved Sherman street between Central avenue and Lexington avenue, and already there have been eleven houses or residences of attractive appearance built upon the street.

In the Third ward Mr. Alfred Burrows has on Reid avenue built a number of residences and is constructing a sewer in the street from Ascension street to Van Houten avenue and laying curb and gutter between the same points.

#### CITY DATUM.

The elevations of all street corners and all breaks in grades in this city are referred to high water mark at Passaic Bridge. As a matter of fact our datum is two feet out of the way. All State and National work in this vicinity is referred to *Mean Tide Level* at Sandy Hook, as determined by the U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey after a long series of observations, and it is very much to be desired that we conform to this standard in all our new work in order to have as much uniformity as possible. I would therefore recommend that all new grades be referred to Mean Tide Level at Sandy Hook as above stated.

#### ERIE RAILROAD.

Perhaps the greatest improvements inaugurated during the year, have been those begun and almost completed by the Erie Railroad Company, viz:

a. In erecting an iron fence along both sides of its right-of-way on Main avenue, from Prospect street to Monroe street.

b. In abandoning its Main avenue siding, and in taking it up.

c. In erecting its freight station north of Monroe street, and laying out its freight yard there.

d. In erecting signal cabins and gates at all central town crossings.

e. In remodeling its passenger station (main station).

It agreed also to join the city and county in tearing down the unsightly and otherwise objectionable arch at Passaic

Bridge. It is hoped that some way may be found to have the arch removed before long, and an iron bridge erected in its place which will give the city a street of 55 to 60 feet width.

#### TRIANGULAR PLOTS.

In accordance with ordinances passed during August last, two small triangles located respectively, one at the junction of Elm and Quincy streets and Lexington avenue and the other at the junction of Sherman street and Lexington and Hamilton avenues were condemned for street purposes. The removal of these plots will improve the appearance of the streets in their vicinity.

#### SEWERS.

The sewers have given little trouble during the year. There have been two stoppages, and these were on short laterals and were soon cleared out. Both were caused by grease from butcher shops.

At this date there have been issued 1564 permits for connections with the sewers. On the first of January, 1897, there had been issued 1,460 permits from which may be inferred that houses have pretty generally been previously connected. Indeed our people early saw the advantage of having a connection with the sewers, and acted accordingly.

#### ASSISTANTS TO THE CITY SURVEYOR.

The following persons have been engaged upon work connected with this department during the year past. Mr. A. L. Pettersen, who had charge of the office and who thoroughly knew the city and its records, left May 1st last, to accept the position of assistant city engineer in his native city of Bergen, Norway. It was with regret that I had to part with his services.

F. W. O'Rourke, chief of office.

Jno. Doolittle, chief of party in field.

Harry Fredericks, transitman.

Jno. McKenzie, leveler.

Harry Doolittle, office records, etc.

Jno. Puttenfink, inspector of sewers.

To yourself, the City Clerk, the Council and the Board of Assessors, in conclusion, I wish to return my thanks for the assistance rendered and the courtesies extended me, during the past year.

Respectfully,  
COLIN R. WISE,  
City Surveyor, etc.



## REPORT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION.

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PASSAIC, N. J., January 13, 1898.

*Hon. Andrew McLean, Mayor.*

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to submit this, the third annual report of the Board of Education, showing briefly some of the work accomplished during the year eighteen hundred ninety-seven.

### FINANCES.

In June, 1896, the Board asked for an appropriation of \$57,000 for general school purposes. The council granted only \$53,000, afterward giving at the request of the Board, an additional one thousand dollars. Of this amount there was expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, \$53,736.78, divided among various accounts according to the financial statement accompanying this report. During the same time \$1,930.38 was expended for manual training and \$1,582.27 for the support of the night school. In June, 1897, the Board asked for an appropriation of \$61,350 for general school purposes. The Council after an exhaustive examination of various members of the Board as to the needs of the schools, granted \$58,000 for general school purposes, with \$1,000 for manual training and \$2,000 for the night school. The Board will ask that the money received for the tuition of non-resident pupils, amounting to about \$800 for the year, be granted it. This request seems reasonable and fair. As the Board must from its funds pay teachers, furnish text books and supplies for these scholars, it is but right that the money received from them should be expended for school purposes.

It has been the custom to consider this money as part of the income of the city and to use it for general expenses. If this request is not granted, I would suggest that this amount and the amount paid for the rent of halls and stores for school purposes should be deducted from the amounts charged to the school appropriations when comparison are made as to the cost of schools in Passaic and in other cities.

I desire to protest against the custom of granting to the Board of Education less money each year than it asks. I believe this is wrong in principle, often injurious in practice and unless extravagance can be proved in the management of the schools, a perversion of the power which the Council has over the expenditures of the Board of Education. The members of the Board are chosen by the people, presumably for their fitness and their interest in educational matters. They bring to this work at least an average amount of ability and give careful consideration to the questions that arise concerning the needs of the schools. They are taxpayers and consequently have a share in the benefits that come from an economical administration of public affairs.

On the other hand few if any members of the City Council visit the schools or give the time and attention necessary to an understanding of their proper development. Why then should not the Board of Education be allowed to decide the amount to be expended?

#### SCHOOL ACCOMMODATIONS.

One question always before the Board is how to provide accommodations for a constantly increasing number of scholars.

During the present school year, the number of scholars in the grammar grades has decreased slightly, while there has been a considerable increase in the number of primary scholars.

To provide for these, the assembly room in school number six has been made into three class rooms and an additional room hired in Dundee, making three now hired in that section of the city at an expense of \$900 per annum. To provide for the needs of the pupils of school number three, the kindergarten school was given up and a primary school placed in the kindergarten room.

The year 1898 opens with brighter prospects for suitable school accommodations than has been the case for some time. With the \$35,000 appropriated for a new school house, the Board has practically voted to erect a building on the site of school number one, containing about sixteen rooms, with the best system of heating, lighting and ventilation. By this plan it will get rid of the oldest, poorest and most expensive (in operation) school building in the city. It will relieve, temporarily at least, the pressing needs of Dundee, of the First and



Fourth wards and southern part of the Second ward. It is hoped to have this building ready for occupancy by September of this year. An appropriation should be made by the city this year for an enlargement of school number two. There is room on the land around this school for an eight room building which could be built at a cost of about \$21,000.

With this enlarged building and the new number one school, we should have accommodations for a thousand more children than at present. In both of these buildings, it will be observed that the city will utilize land that it already owns, thus saving a considerable proportion of the cost of school houses erected in a crowded part of the city.

#### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

Closely connected with this subject of school accommodation is that of the enforcement of the law of compulsory education. This question has received careful consideration by various committees of the Board during the past few years, but no decided action toward its enforcement has been taken for the reason that there was not sufficient school room for the children who *wanted* to attend school; and under these circumstances it was not practicable to force others into our schools. Many who are interested in the social and charitable work of our city maintain that a large number of children never go to school. It has also come to the notice of the Board that many attend the night school who are not employed during the day and therefore should attend day school.

With ample seating capacity for all applicants and with the co-operation of the managers of the parochial and private schools of the city, the board hopes to compel every child to attend some school in compliance with the State law upon the subject.

#### TEACHERS.

Good teachers are the foundation of a good school system. It little matters how comfortable the buildings, how efficient the supervision, how complete the course of study and text books if the teaching force is of poor quality. We need teachers not only to impart instruction to pupils from text books, but those who are of broad education and culture, and of strong personality, whose influence attends the children after school hours. Much of the best effort of our teachers is required to counteract the pernicious influences exerted upon the

minds of children outside the school room. They are laying the foundations of future homes where learning and refinement should dwell. Such being the duties of teachers in the broadest sense it follows that in order to get good teachers we must be prepared to pay at least as good salaries as neighboring cities. We are, however, unable to do this and in more than one instance the past year good teachers have left us on account of the poor salaries paid here; and in trying to fill vacancies thus created, the Board has often been hampered by its inability to offer salaries sufficient to attract teachers of the highest grade.

#### COURSE OF STUDY.

The past year has been prolific in changes in courses of study and text books, especially in the grammar and primary grades. All these changes have tended to broaden the curriculum and to simplify the methods of instruction.

A business course would have been introduced in the High School but for the lack of funds. A laboratory in this school is an imperative necessity for the proper study of the sciences. This, too, has had to wait until the coming year. A change in the systems of penmanship and music, the introduction of nature studies, the addition of supplementary readers to all grades, are some of the most advantageous improvements of the year in the lower grades.

The manual training course has been enlarged by the addition of bent iron work for the boys in the manual training school, and by the introduction of sewing for girls of the third and fourth years. The evening school opened in October with an average number of pupils. Many were irregular in attendance and it was only by personal attention on the part of the principal of the school that the attendance has come to the normal figure.

The public schools of our country are to-day the most important agencies at work for the educational and moral improvement of the thousands of children of ignorant parents who come to our shores each year. They are endeavoring to prepare these boys and girls for good citizenship, for the proper understanding of our system of government and a due appreciation of its benefits.

They aim at the harmonious development and discipline of all the powers and faculties, physical, mental and moral.

They should not be hampered by a petty spirit of parsimony, but should be encouraged, fostered and improved in all possible ways that their usefulness may be extended and all enjoy the benefits they bestow.

LOUIS B. CARR,  
President of the Board of Education.

## APPENDIX.

Appropriation by City Council for support of Public Schools for the city fiscal year, July 1st, 1896, to July 1st, 1897.

## APPROPRIATIONS, 1896-1897.

For General School Purposes .....\$53,000 00

Apportioned by the Board of Education  
to the several school accounts as  
follows:

Teachers' Salaries .....	\$34,000
City Superintendent Salary .....	2,000
Janitors and Clerks .....	4,560
Repairs of School Buildings .....	2,015
Furnaces and Fuel .....	2,000
School Furniture and Library .....	1,100
School Books and Stationery .....	4,650
Water, Gas and Incidentals .....	2,000
Sanitation .....	675

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\$53,000 00

February 1st—Additional appropriation for support of Public Schools ..... 1,000 00

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\$54,000 00

Expended for support of Public Schools for the year ending July 1, 1897:

Teachers' Salaries .....	\$34,456.39
City Superintendent Salary .....	1,999.92
Janitors and Clerks .....	4,613.55
Repairs to Buildings .....	2,076.07
School Furniture and Library .....	1,829.95
Furnaces and Fuel .....	1,777.64
Books and Stationery .....	4,500.80
Water .....	378.00
Gas .....	415.00

Printing . . . . .	130.55	
Insurance . . . . .	276.50	
Janitor Supplies . . . . .	409.73	
Rent of School Rooms . . . . .	462.50	
Incidentals . . . . .	390.68	
Sanitation . . . . .	19.50	

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\$53,736 78

Balance . . . . . 263 22

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\$54,000 00

Appropriation for Manual Training  
School, 1896-97 :

City . . . . .	\$1,000.00	
State . . . . .	1,000.00	2,000 00

This amount was expended as follows :

Teachers' Salaries . . . . .	\$1,295.82	
Janitors' Salaries . . . . .	360.00	
Supplies . . . . .	274.56	1,930 38
Balance . . . . .		69 62

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\$2,000 00

APPROPRIATION FOR NIGHT SCHOOL, 1896-97.

This amount was expended as follows :

Teachers' Salaries . . . . .	\$1,282.50	
Janitor . . . . .	168.75	
Incidentals . . . . .	131.02	

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1,582 27

Balance . . . . . 417 73

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\$2,000 00

Appropriations asked for by the Board  
of Education from the City  
Council for 1897-8 :

For General School Purposes . . . . .	\$61,350 00
For Night School . . . . .	2,000 00
For Manual Training . . . . .	1,500 00

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\$64,850 00

Appropriation by the City Council for support of Public Schools for the fiscal year July 1st, 1897, to July 1st, 1898 :

For General School Purposes.....	\$58,000 00
For Night School.....	2,000 00
For Manual Training.....	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$61,000 00

Apportioned by the Board of Education to the several accounts for 1897-8 :

Salaries of Teachers.....	\$37,500
Salary of City Superintendent.....	2,000
Salaries Janitors and Clerks.....	4,700
Furnaces and Fuel.....	2,100
Furniture and Library.....	500
Books and Stationery.....	5,250
Course of Instruction.....	100
Sanitation.....	500
Water, Gas and Incidentals.....	3,150
Repairs to Buildings.....	2,200
	<hr/>
	\$58,000
Manual Training.....	1,000
Night School.....	2,000

Expended by the Board of Education under the several accounts to date, Jan. 1st, 1898 (five months):

Teachers' Salaries.....	\$15,431 92
City Superintendent.....	833 30
Janitors and Clerks.....	1,958 75
Furnaces and Fuel.....	128 04
Furniture and Library.....	231 18
Books and Stationery.....	4,476 11
Course of Instruction.....	
Sanitation.....	
Repairs to School Buildings.....	1,673 95
Gas, Water and Incidentals.....	1,207 18
Night School.....	378 27
Manual Training.....	965 97

Balances to the credit of the several accounts are as follows :

Teachers' Salaries.....	\$22,068 08
City Superintendent.....	1,166 70

Janitors' and Clerk's Salaries . . . . .	2,741 25
Furnaces and Fuel. . . . .	1,971 96
Furniture and Library. . . . .	268 82
Books and Stationery. . . . .	773 89
Course of Instruction . . . . .	100 00
Sanitation . . . . .	500 00
Repairs to School Buildings. . . . .	526 05
Gas, Water and Incidentals. . . . .	1,942 82
Night School. . . . .	1,621 73
Manual Training. . . . .	1,034 03

## ENROLLMENT

The following table shows the number of teachers and scholars in the schools for December, 1896 and 1897:

scholars in the schools for December, 1896 and 1897.					
Number Teachers	H. S.,	December,	'97 . . . . .	6	
"	"	"	"	'96 . . . . .	5
"	"	Gram.,	"	'97 . . . . .	18
"	"	"	"	'96 . . . . .	18
"	"	Prim.,	"	'97 . . . . .	37
"	"	"	"	'96 . . . . .	32
"	"	Kg.,	"	'97 . . . . .	8
"	"	"	"	'96 . . . . .	8
		<i>High School.</i>	<i>Gram.</i>	<i>Prim.</i>	<i>Kg.</i>
Average Enrollment,	'97 . . . . .	161	662	1,549	310
"	"	'96 . . . . .	145	677	1,417
Total Enrollment,	'97 . . . . .	2,682			
"	"	'96 . . . . .	2,607		
Whole number enrolled	December,	'97 . . . . .	3,179		
"	"	"	"	'96 . . . . .	3,105



## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PASSAIC FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*To the Honorable Board of Councilmen of the City of Passaic.*

GENTLEMEN :—The trustees of the Passaic Free Library herewith submit their tenth annual report ; also the reports of the Treasurer and Librarian.

While the results of the past year have been fairly satisfactory the trustees believe that interest might be increased by a more general co-operation of our citizens with the work of the trustees.

You will notice by the Librarian's report that there is quite an increase in the circulation of books during the fall and winter months, but a falling off during the summer. This we think is largely due to the bicycle craze. Give the boys and girls wheels and allow them to run in the street until nine or ten o'clock at night and they will not be likely to require many books or enjoy the privileges of the reading rooms. The trustees have taken special pains the past year to increase the interest in the Dundee Branch. Besides the books taken from the main Library, out of four hundred and eleven books purchased during the year, two hundred and twenty-six have gone to the branch, and the condition of the books indicates that they have been in pretty general use.

Miss Lambert, the librarian, is now giving one afternoon in each week to the branch, reading and talking to the children, and their attendance indicates that they are much interested.

A room for the patrons of the Reference Library is much needed. In order that readers in the main room may not be disturbed talking and reading aloud are prohibited. Those who patronize the Reference Library (and they are largely from the public schools) should have a room by themselves, where they may converse and compare notes. This room should connect with the general reading room so as to be under the general supervision of the librarian. If the Council in making any changes could so arrange as to give the Library the rooms now occupied by the City Collector they would be a great con-



venience to the Library. The trustees are doing all they can with the limited means at their disposal to keep up an interest in the Library. As you will see by the Treasurer's report, after paying the running expenses of the Library, we have only about four hundred dollars for the purchase of books, an amount entirely too small to supply the general demand. The attendance is always increased when we get a supply of new books. The city has so many ways to expend money, and charitable institutions are making so many calls, that the trustees do not feel at liberty to make personal application for funds. But if any one feels disposed to contribute to a good work their contributions will be received with open hands and thankful hearts.

JOHN A. WILLETT,

December 31, 1897.

President.

R. D. BENSON, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH  
PASSAIC FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

1897.

RECEIPTS.

Jan. 1.	Cash on hand.....	\$ 481.10
	Drawn from City Appro'n	2,500.00
	Received from Fines....	46.59
	“ “ sale of cat-	
	alogues.....	6.60

EXPENDITURES—MAIN LIBRARY.

Salaries.....	\$1,056.99
Printing and Supplies..	160.41
Books.....	439.77
Papers and Periodicals..	187.25
Re-binding Books.....	82.96
Furniture and Fixtures..	37.50
Repairs.....	9.45

\$1,974.33

DUNDEE BRANCH.

Salaries.....	\$ 384.00
Rent.....	300.00
Light.....	99.17
Heat.....	11.00
Papers and Periodicals..	94.00
Furniture and Fixtures..	34.84

923.01

Dec. 31. Cash on hand.....

136.95

\$3,034.29

\$3,034.29

# PASSAIC PUBLIC LIBRARY.

## REPORT OF THE MAIN LIBRARY AND THE DUNDEE BRANCH FOR THE YEAR 1897.

1897.	CIRCULATION.					READING ROOM.					DUNDEE READING ROOM.				
	Total.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist. Biog.	Sci., etc.	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.	Adults	Minors	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.	Adults	Minors.
January.....	3,239	945	1,498	97	70	2,563	1,532	1,031	903	1,650	2,017	1,816	201	840	1,177
February.....	3,228	986	1,506	61	69	2,522	1,612	1,010	861	1,671	1,742	1,647	196	732	1,010
March.....	3,782	1,263	1,574	87	81	2,927	1,673	1,254	1,006	1,921	1,956	1,749	207	733	1,223
April.....	3,036	929	1,338	71	63	2,186	1,189	996	781	1,404	1,687	1,486	201	753	934
May.....	2,832	861	1,293	53	62	2,495	1,335	1,160	1,111	1,384	1,958	1,246	112	641	717
June.....	2,694	722	1,375	49	56	2,373	1,245	1,128	1,059	1,314	1,321	1,225	96	637	684
July.....	3,101	871	1,663	28	49	2,723	1,606	1,217	1,165	1,558	1,423	1,393	130	664	859
August.....	3,126	1,015	1,634	60	51	2,792	1,500	1,292	1,100	1,692	1,589	1,511	78	657	932
September.....	2,865	718	1,434	88	59	2,526	1,411	1,115	1,016	1,510	1,736	1,565	171	728	1,008
October.....	3,203	873	1,508	108	82	2,730	1,583	1,147	1,080	1,650	2,037	1,716	321	729	1,308
November.....	3,742	1,065	1,614	112	109	2,980	1,797	1,183	1,065	1,915	2,749	1,946	803	668	2,081
December.....	3,329	987	1,452	99	101	2,571	1,558	1,013	874	1,697	2,567	1,881	686	568	1,999
Totals.....	38,127	11,225	17,788	913	842	31,387	17,841	13,546	12,011	19,376	22,282	19,081	3,201	8,350	13,932

Respectfully submitted,

CECILIA C. LAMBERT, Librarian.







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LIBRARY  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS